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REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF
INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES
AND PEOPLES

ANGUILLA

Working paper prepared by the Secretariat

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I. GENERAL

1. Anguilla lies 240 kilometres east of Puerto Rico, 113 kilometres north-west of Saint Kitts and Nevis and 8 kilometres north of St. Maarten/Saint-Martin. The Territory has a total land mass of 96 square kilometres and includes several offshore islets. The Department of Trade of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland operates a lighthouse station on Sombrero Island, one of the offshore islands. The main island has a maximum length of 26 kilometres and a maximum width of 5 kilometres. There is no dominant urban area in Anguilla, although certain areas are more densely settled than others. The government headquarters and the main settlement area are located in the Valley.

2. The climate is tropical, with a mean monthly temperature of about 25 degrees centigrade and a mean monthly relative humidity of over 70 per cent. Because of Anguilla's topography, rainfall is low and erratic. The islands lie in the hurricane zone and a hurricane watch is observed between July and October.

3. The population, which the 1984 census placed at 6,842, increased to 9,300 in mid-1991. The annual rate of population growth was estimated at 9.7 per cent. 2/ There are a small number of expatriate residents, mainly from the United Kingdom, Canada and the United States of America. According to the administering Power, several thousand Anguillans and their families live and work outside Anguilla, mainly on adjacent Caribbean islands (St. Maarten/Saint-Martin, St. Kitts and Nevis, Antigua and Barbuda, the United States Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico) and in the United Kingdom and the United States.

4. A United Nations mission visited the Territory in September 1984 and later held consultations in London with representatives of the administering Power.

II. CONSTITUTIONAL AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

A. Constitution

5. An outline of the Anguilla (Constitution) Order, 1982, is given in the report of the Visiting Mission (A/AC.109/799, paras. 19-27). Briefly, the Government of Anguilla consists of a Governor, an Executive Council and a House of Assembly. The Governor, who is appointed by the Queen, is responsible for defence, external affairs, internal security, including the police, and the public service. He also holds reserved legislative powers under the authority of the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs of the United Kingdom. On all other matters, the Governor is required to consult with, and act on the advice of, the Executive Council.

6. The law of Anguilla is the common law of the United Kingdom, together with all legislation inherited from the former Associated State of St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla up to August 1971 and the local legislation enacted since that date. The law is administered by the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court, which comprises

a Court of Appeal and a High Court of Justice, courts of summary jurisdiction and magistrate courts.

B. Constitutional developments

7. A detailed account of the main points and questions raised in the report of the Constitution Review Committee appointed by the Governor is contained in a previous working paper prepared by the Secretariat (see A/AC.109/975, paras. 15 and 16; see also A/AC.109/975/Add.1, annex).

C. Political parties and elections

8. As previously reported, general elections are held in the Territory every five years. The last elections took place in 1989 and resulted in the re-election of Chief Minister Emile Gumbs. His party, the ruling Anguilla National Alliance (ANA) won three of the seven seats contested. The position of ANA was further strengthened when an independent elected member rallied to the party. As a result, ANA now controls four of the seven seats in the House of Assembly. The opposition party, the Anguilla United Party (AUP), won two seats and the Anguilla Democratic Party (ADP), one seat.

D. Future status of the Territory

9. Following a review of its policy and management with respect to its Caribbean dependent Territories, the United Kingdom made a significant policy change in 1992 aimed at achieving better dialogue, coordination and cooperation with those Territories as well as at restructuring the management of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Overseas Development Agency, both in the United Kingdom and in the Caribbean. (The policy statement is reproduced in document A/AC.109/1137, para. 17.)

10. In the Country Policy Plan agreed upon between the Governments of Anguilla and the United Kingdom in August 1993 (see paras. 67-74), the United Kingdom reaffirmed its commitment to several principles, among them its responsibility, through the Governor of Anguilla, for the Territory's external relations and other areas of reserved responsibility, and its firm stewardship in the discharge of these functions. The Governor consults to the fullest extent possible, within the framework of the Constitution, with the Government of Anguilla on all these issues.

11. The United Kingdom shares the objective of the territorial Government's of achieving economic independence. It remains committed to its policy of assisting Territories to attain full independence when and if it is the clearly and constitutionally expressed wish of the people. Further, the United Kingdom reaffirms that the reasonable needs of Anguilla and the other dependent Territories will continue to be a priority for the aid funds of the United Kingdom.

12. On 24 November 1993, in a keynote address to a conference on dependent Territories entitled "Progress through Partnership", Mr. Douglas Hurd, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs of the United Kingdom, outlined the policy of the Government of the United Kingdom on its dependent Territories. A summary of his speech is contained in document A/AC.109/1180, paragraphs 30-36.

E. Civil service

13. In reply to a query addressed to him by the Secretary of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance on behalf of the Subcommittee, a representative of the administering Power stated in a letter dated 5 August 1991 that the Anguillan public service was comprised of approximately 92 per cent indigenous and 8 per cent expatriate staff members. Out of a total of 515 employees, 31 were from other Caribbean islands, 6 from the United Kingdom (providing technical assistance under the United Kingdom Aid Programme) and 6 others from various countries (mainly provided by aid donors such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)).

14. The Minister for Finance said in his 1992 budget speech that the salaries and wages of public servants amounted to over 56 per cent of the budget, and that increments in these emoluments had resulted in a substantial rise in the Government's recurrent budget. The various departments of the administration had, however, assisted the Government in keeping overall expenditure to acceptable levels by reducing their operating costs by 10 per cent as requested by the Government.

F. External relations

15. The Government of Anguilla cooperates directly with other Governments in the Caribbean and participates in regional conferences and projects organized by Governments and regional and international organizations and agencies (see also paras. 58-66). The Territory is a member of the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), the University of the West Indies and the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank, and holds observer status in the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States.

16. Queen Elizabeth II visited Anguilla in February 1994 at the beginning of a three-week journey to several former and current British dependencies in the Caribbean and in the Atlantic, namely: Belize, Guyana, Dominica, the Cayman Islands, Jamaica, the Bahamas and Bermuda. 3/

III. ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

A. General

17. Anguilla's development objectives remain the raising of the standard of living of Anguillans through the development of the Territory's productive potential and the provision of a wide range of employment opportunities. Tourism is the major vehicle of growth, although the Government recognizes the

importance of some level of economic diversification for balanced sectoral growth. The development strategy also envisages joint ventures between the public and private sectors, thereby creating an atmosphere that would attract both local and foreign investment.

18. In 1992, the economy of Anguilla recovered from a sharp decline in real growth and most sectors of the economy performed satisfactorily. 4/ The gross domestic product in constant prices increased by 7.48 per cent to EC$ 139.91 million 5/ in 1992 compared with EC$ 130.17 million recorded for 1991. (In current prices, the gross domestic product registered an 11.5 per cent growth, from EC$ 136.82 million to EC$ 152.57 million). 4/

19. Some external factors which were said to have contributed to the recovery of the economy in 1992 were the favourable developments in the global economic environment and an upturn in the economy of the United States during the year. The internal factor which contributed the most to the significant improvement in the overall growth rate was the recovery in the growth performance of the two leading sectors of the economy: the hotel and restaurant and the construction sectors. Together, they accounted for 53 per cent of the gross domestic product, thus showing a strong performance during 1992 after a downturn in 1991. 4/

B. Public finance

20. The upturn in the economy's aggregate output during 1992 was accompanied by improved fiscal performance. The surplus on the current account of the central government operations which declined steeply from EC$ 2.18 million to just EC$ 0.73 million in 1991, was estimated to have risen to EC$ 3.44 million in 1992. This significant increase is attributable to a strong revenue growth accompanied by a slower growth in current expenditure during the year. 4/

21. Recurrent revenue rose by 17.1 per cent to EC$ 29.20 million during 1992 compared with EC$ 24.94 million recorded for 1991. The 17.1 per cent growth represented a significant improvement over the 9.2 per cent growth registered for 1991. Most of the principal revenue items recorded positive growth during the year. The item that contributed most to the improved position was the stamp duty, which increased by 62.9 per cent to EC$ 3.07 million, compared with just EC$ 1.89 million collected in 1991. Other significant sources of revenue growth during the year included the embarkation tax and the accommodation tax, which increased by 29.9 per cent and 14.0 per cent, respectively. Import duty on gas and fuel increased by 64.7 per cent, while the duty on alcohol rose by 61.3 per cent. 4/

22. Recurrent expenditure rose from EC$ 24.22 million in 1991 to EC$ 25.77 million in 1992. This was a result primarily of a significant increase in pensions and gratuities, which rose by 39.9 per cent to EC$ 1.42 million during 1992, compared with EC$ 1.01 million in 1991. The overall rate of growth in recurrent expenditure, which was estimated at 17.25 per cent for 1991, fell to only 6.4 per cent in 1992. The improved performance can be attributed primarily to the austerity measures taken by the

Government in early 1992 which reduced the recurrent expenditure of the various departments by 10 per cent. 4/

23. Capital expenditure, which had declined sharply by 63 per cent to a total of EC$ 3.25 million in 1991, grew substantially to EC$ 9.26 million in 1992. This sizeable increase can be attributed to the accelerated implementation in 1992 of the capital programme for the completion of major projects, including the commercial registry building, the police marine base and the new hospital, as well as the commencement of new projects such as phase I of the road improvement project financed by the European Development Fund, the Anguilla water development project and the new post office project. 4/

C. Agriculture, livestock and fisheries

24. Agricultural activity in Anguilla is extremely limited by a combination of factors, including poor soil, a small amount of arable land and irregular rainfall. The policy of the Government, however, is to increase to the greatest extent possible the degree of self-sufficiency in agricultural production.

25. Notwithstanding the prevailing dry conditions and the unpredictable rainfall patterns existing in Anguilla, agriculture continues to play an important part in the livelihood of the local people. In addition to farming, several Anguillans are engaged in livestock and poultry production, as well as fishing. A greater number of youngsters are becoming interested in agricultural projects, such as growing vegetables. Owing to changes in dietary habits, young people are now much keener on eating locally produced vegetables.

26. Despite the numerous constraints to agricultural development in the Territory and the relatively insignificant share of the sector in the gross domestic product, efforts have been made to increase Anguilla's agricultural output in view of the critical importance of maintaining a certain degree of self-sufficiency in food crops and controlling the growth of food import costs. In 1992, the Territory experienced an improvement in the level of rainfall and increased its agricultural output, which had declined sharply in 1991 following a severe drought. 4/

27. Crop production increased by 27.5 per cent in 1992 in contrast to a decline of 27 per cent recorded for 1991. Compared to 1991, there was a substantial growth in the output of the major crops, including corn (maize), pigeon peas and sweet potatoes, and a considerable increase in the production of vegetables, including pumpkin, tomatoes, onions and carrots. 4/

28. Aside from the increase in the level of rainfall, major factors that contributed significantly to the Territory's agricultural output during 1992 included the following: more extensive practice of the drip irrigation system introduced through the Caribbean Agricultural Rural Development and Training Service (CARDATS); renewed interest by, as well as increased participation of, farmers in agricultural activities; and extension of services provided by the Department of Agriculture. 4/

29. With regard to livestock, real output increased by 14.3 per cent to EC$ 1.36 million, compared with EC$ 1.19 million in 1991. The improvement in livestock production could be attributed primarily to a significant decline in the destruction of livestock by wild animals, owing to more effective protective measures adopted during the year. 4/

30. The output of the fisheries industry, which accounted for approximately 75 per cent of the total agricultural output in 1991, continued to expand in 1992. Real output increased by 40.5 per cent to EC$ 4.86 million, compared with EC$ 3.46 million recorded for 1991. The substantial growth in the overall output of this sector may be attributed to a significant improvement in the fishing of lobster and conch during 1992. 4/

D. Industrial development

31. The manufacturing sector continues to be medium- and small-scale and confined to a narrow range of activities, including the production of salt, the construction of wooden boats and other traditional operations. The territorial Government reports that the manufacturing sector is still in its infancy.

E. Public works

32. According to the Minister for Finance, the Government has taken steps to contribute to the financing of road projects and a water development programme costing in excess of EC$ 16 million and financed by the European Development Fund and the British Development Division in the Caribbean. Projects already completed include the construction of additional school facilities, government buildings, the drilling of wells and the provision of pipes.

F. Transport, communications and other basic facilities

33. The Territory is served by a network of nearly 100 kilometres of all-purpose roads, two major seaports and an airport. In recent years, several major capital improvement projects were completed and others were reported in progress.

34. In December 1993, the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) approved a loan of US$ 1.71 million (US$ 1.09 million from the Bank's Ordinary Capital Resources and US$ 0.62 million from its Special Funds Resources) to the Government of Anguilla to assist in financing the following: construction of a reinforced concrete jetty (70 metres long and 3.8 metres wide) at Island Harbour in the northeast of the island; reconstruction and realignment in part of approximately 1.7 kilometres of the Sandy Ground Road in the north; and construction of the base course and wearing surface of approximately 0.9 kilometres of the Sandy Hill Road towards the south-east. According to the Government, these projects are high priority since they will contribute to the improvement and expansion of economic infrastructure vital to Anguilla's development.

35. The procurement of goods and services for these projects will be financed by member countries of CDB and the Kingdom of the Netherlands. An environmental analysis of the proposed works was carried out as part of the feasibility study and recommendations were made to mitigate the more significant adverse environmental impacts of the projects.

36. The electricity and water sector showed noticeable improvement during 1992. In real terms, the value added of this sector increased by 14.7 per cent, compared with 2.9 per cent in 1991. The relatively high rate of growth was attributable to a strong performance in the field of electricity, sustained by a steady growth in the national demand for electricity. 4/

G. Property and real estate development

37. Leading indicators show that there has been an upturn in construction activity during 1992 following a decline of 25.81 per cent in 1991. The value added of the construction sector in real terms rose by 16.37 per cent to EC$ 26.66 million, compared with EC$ 22.91 million in 1991. This sector continued to be the second largest contributor to the gross domestic product, accounting for 19.06 per cent in 1992. 4/

38. The upturn in construction activity during the year may be attributed to the implementation of a number of major infrastructure projects including, as mentioned earlier, the road improvement project financed by the European Development Fund; the Anguilla water development project and the new post office project in the public sector; the acceleration of the building phase of the Casablanca Hotel development project; and the construction of residential buildings in the private sector (see para. 23). 4/

H. Banking

39. CDB reports that within the commercial banking system, deposits increased by 9 per cent to EC$ 78 million in the 12 months ending December 1992. In comparison, loans outstanding increased by 11 per cent to EC$ 70 million primarily in response to increased lending to the private sector, particularly the tourism sector, and for house and land purchases. 6/

I. Environment

40. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is sponsoring a project in Anguilla entitled "Management of Natural Resources and the Environment". As part of this project, a country environmental profile is being produced under the direction of the Parliamentary Secretary of Education and the Environment.

41. The profile will serve to define issues and make recommendations for sound environmental management policies both now and in the future. It will provide a working document through which policy makers and developers can better understand the fragile ecosystems which combine to create Anguilla's unique natural environment.

42. The project emphasizes that, because Anguilla's economy relies heavily on tourism, a healthy environment is crucial if Anguilla is to continue to be promoted as an unspoiled, exotic and upscale destination. Improving the island's infrastructure and adopting policies for the protection of natural and cultural resources will benefit the people by preserving habitats for wildlife, protecting historical and archaeological sites, maintaining cultural traditions and improving Anguilla's economy.

43. As part of the project, specific issues will be addressed and discussed. Recommendations will be made for each chapter of the country environmental profile. The chapters will consist of the following: (a) Institutional and legal framework of Anguilla; (b) Planning and growth management; (c) Protected areas planning and landscaping management; (d) Coastal activities; (e) Water resources; (f) Waste management and pollution control; (g) Tourism; (h) Cultural and historic resources; and (i) Shaping Anguilla's future. To ensure that each chapter is accurately addressed, a National Advisory Committee has been established.

J. International business

44. Only two offshore banks were registered in 1993 following passage in 1992 by the House of Assembly of the Offshore Banking and Trust Companies Ordinance. According to a local publication, British economic consultants carried out an economic review on behalf of the Government of Anguilla in 1993, at the request of the Government of the United Kingdom. In their report entitled "Strategic Economic Review", the consultants noted that the Government, recognizing that the period of rapid growth in tourism had come to an end and that the development of Anguilla as an offshore centre offered the best chance of diversifying its economic base, of providing new employment opportunities, or raising incomes for Anguillans and increasing Government revenues, wished to encourage the development of a high quality, reputable offshore finance industry in Anguilla. 7/

45. The report further stated that the Government would be supportive of the development and active promotion of registration of offshore companies and of appropriate administrative, commercial and regulatory measures, including the repeal of outmoded confidentiality legislation presently on the statute books. The Government would also be highly selective regarding the issue of banking licences and would initially avoid any insurance businesses that dealt with the general public in any other country. Finally, it would adopt an immigration policy that encouraged the immigration of members of key professions.

46. It was reported that the Government had already taken major steps to implement the recommendations contained in the Strategic Economic Review, which included the following:

(a) The setting up of a marketing task force chaired by the Minister of Finance, known as the Offshore Finance Promotion Agency, and consisting of officials of the Ministry of Finance as well as members of private sector firms, which will spearhead promotional initiatives in this sector;

(b) The revival of the Offshore Finance Committee chaired by the Governor, in which the Economic Planning Unit, which coordinated the Review, is represented and plays a policy-making and implementation role;

(c) The preparation of new legislation to be submitted to the House of Assembly to update the company law as well as the laws on partnerships and limited partnerships, trusts and other investment vehicles, and the regulations for company managers and captive insurance companies. 7/

47. These recommendations were prerequisites to obtaining a large British aid package for urgent changes needed to enable Anguilla to compete with the other, more developed dependent Territories in the region (the Turks and Caicos Islands, the British Virgin Islands and the Cayman Islands, and in the wider international market. The Turks and Caicos Islands received one such package in 1991-1992 following similar findings in a review conducted in 1990 by the same consultants. 7/

48. The Government has also decided to commit increased resources to the sector, which is one reason some large financial service institutions in Canada, the United Kingdom and Switzerland have already decided to set up companies in Anguilla.

49. The computerization of the Registry of Companies will soon provide international round-the-clock services comparable - though not identical - to those provided by the British Virgin Islands. In line with the recommendations of the Strategic Economic Review, a publicity campaign was launched abroad by Anguilla's Registry of Companies, highlighting the advantages offered by the Territory's offshore business and emphasizing the fact that the Government was undertaking a thorough modernization of Anguilla's financial services, legislation and incorporative facilities. 7/

K. Tourism

50. In 1992, total visitor arrivals increased by 2.91 per cent to 93,190, compared with 90,544 in 1991. The number of stopover visitors increased by 2.6 per cent, from 59,542 in 1991 to 61,104 in 1992. 4/ The number of day visitors increased by 3.5 per cent from 31,002 in 1991 to 32,076, despite an unusual performance by the sector in 1991, when arrivals fell by almost 1 per cent. The improvement in 1992 was a result primarily of increased tourist activity during the winter months. 8/

51. In February 1992, tourist arrivals reached 4,258, a record level for monthly arrivals and 20 per cent more than in the same period in 1991. The 3,645 arrivals in December 1992, the second largest number ever in a month, was a substantial increase (19 per cent) over December of the previous year. There were also significant increases of 40 per cent and 28 per cent in tourist arrivals for the months of October and November, respectively. 8/

52. The performance of the sector during the summer months of 1992 was less satisfactory. In the period May to August, tourist arrivals registered

consistent monthly declines of over 5 per cent in comparison to the same period in 1991. 8/

53. The United States continued to dominate the market in 1992 with 64 per cent of tourist arrivals, down from 66 per cent the previous year. Between 1989 and 1991, the rate of growth of tourist arrivals from the United States declined sharply, although the number of arrivals had almost doubled during the period 1986 to 1989. In 1992, tourists arriving from the Caribbean increased by 10.5 per cent, while the number from the United Kingdom and Canada remained virtually stagnant. 8/

54. Although visitor arrivals increased in 1992, the average length of stay dropped to 9.6 nights as compared to 10.3 nights in 1991. As a result, visitor expenditure in both years remained at the same level of US$ 35.2 million. 8/

55. At the end of 1992, the authorities expressed satisfaction at the number of tourist arrivals during the winter months. The poor performance of the industry during the summer months, however, is a source of concern and underscores the need for an intensive promotion campaign during the summer. The number of tourists arriving in Anguilla is still fairly small and the rate of growth is slow, making it essential to develop strategies to attract more visitors. 8/

56. The hotel and restaurant sector, the largest contributor to the gross domestic product, recovered in 1992 from a growth of only 0.56 per cent in 1991, to a real growth of 3.46 per cent. The relative share of this sector in the gross domestic product, however, declined slightly to 33.36 per cent, compared with 34.66 per cent in 1991. 4/

57. In 1992, there were 447 hotel rooms, 75 guest-house rooms and 398 apartments/villas or cottages available in Anguilla. The rate of room occupancy in 1992 was 41 per cent from January to April, and 25 per cent from May to December, resulting in an average of 31 per cent for the whole year. 8/

L. Assistance from organizations and institutions of the United Nations system

58. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) continued to be the main source of development assistance to the Territory within the United Nations system. The country programme for Anguilla approved by the UNDP Governing Council provides the framework for external assistance to Anguilla. In the fourth programming cycle (1986-1991), UNDP provided US$ 1.4 million. The second country programme for the Territory, covering the period from 1992 to 1996, makes provision for US$ 1,466,000 in technical cooperation resources, of which $1,266,000 are to be provided under the regular indicative planning figure allocated to Anguilla.

59. It should be noted that several Governments contribute in cash or in kind to the UNDP country programmes for Anguilla and the other Territories, thereby increasing significantly the assistance available to those Territories.

60. In addition to the support provided by UNDP to the Territory at the national level - mainly in the areas of human resource development, economic and social development planning, environment and tourism - Anguilla continues to benefit from the Multi-Island Programme for the Eastern Caribbean, which is implemented through the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States. The programme of assistance for the period 1992-1996 makes provision for US$ 4.2 million in technical cooperation resources, of which $4 million are to be provided under the regular multi-island indicative planning figure.

61. Further, Anguilla is a beneficiary of the programme of assistance between UNDP and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), which is a component of the Fourth Regional Programme for Latin America and the Caribbean. The planned expenditure for the CARICOM component of the regional programme for the period 1992-1996 is US$7 million. UNDP ensures that the participation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in these two Caribbean multi-country programmes is compatible with their own national economic and social development needs.

62. All Non-Self-Governing Territories in the Caribbean, including Anguilla, have received support from UNDP in the preparatory process for the 1994 United Nations Global Conference on Sustainable Development for Small Island Developing Countries, to be held in Barbados. Their involvement in this process has served to provide for the creation of close linkages and scope for the promotion of greater horizontal cooperation between the Non-Self-Governing small island developing countries of the Caribbean and in other parts of the world.

63. In view of the link between population and development, on the one hand, and the impact of population on economic and social activity, on the other, UNDP has worked in close collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in assisting Non-Self-Governing Territories in their preparation for the International Conference on Population and Development, tc be held at Cairo in 1994.

64. In addition to the provision of assistance in technical cooperation, UNDP has also been playing an active part in promoting and supporting the involvement and direct participation of the Caribbean Non-Self-Governing Territories, wherever applicable, in major global issues and at international forums of relevance to their economic and social development.

65. During the reporting period, United Nations agencies provided assistance to Anguilla in various fields of activity. The International Labour Organization (ILO) undertook for the Government an evaluation of its social security scheme, aimed, inter alia, at widening the scope of coverage to include the entire working population. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) took steps to set up a regional project for Anguilla and Montserrat involving the strengthening of veterinary services, for which both FAO and CARICOM sought funding. The World Health Organization (WHO), whose technical cooperation is coordinated by the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO), assisted the Territory in the areas of community water supply and sanitation, health services development, maternal and child health, as well as in the control of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS). The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) helped to develop a comprehensive drug prevention system and, in this regard, provided training to

selected educational personnel in various domains, including management and planning skills, development of curriculum modules and instructional materials, and peer counselling.

66. The Territory is represented at the annual meetings of the Caribbean Group for Cooperation in Economic Development, sponsored by the World Bank.

M. Country Policy Plan

67. In August 1993, Anguilla signed with the United Kingdom what was termed an innovative aid agreement in the form of a Country Policy Plan covering the period from 1993/94 to 1996/97. The plan is the first to be agreed upon between the administering Power and a Caribbean dependent Territory. It outlines the commitment of both the Government of Anguilla and the United Kingdom to a new and closer policy of dialogue and partnership. It is hoped that it will become a model for other dependent Territories in the region.

68. Under the plan, the United Kingdom would provide to Anguilla £10.5 million in assistance from the funds managed by the Dependent Territories Regional Secretariat for the period 1994-1997. This would include an indicative planning figure of £2.5 million from funds available for the collective benefit and support of the British dependent Territories in the Caribbean.

69. The plan outlines the major policy objectives and principal programme targets which the Government of Anguilla has set in consultation with the Government of the United Kingdom. It is designed to facilitate the new thrust in cooperation and partnership between the United Kingdom and its dependent Territories in the Caribbean. The cooperation and partnership are aimed at promoting good government and self-sustainable growth as well as economic autonomy for Anguilla in the medium- to long-term period.

70. The Country Policy Plan consists of three parts. The first part identifies the broad principles on which the conduct of the public affairs of Anguilla are based and summarizes the general commitments of the Government of Anguilla in this regard. It also outlines the principles being followed by the Government of the United Kingdom and the commitments to which it subscribes in relation to the agreed partnership programme. The Government of Anguilla, inter alia, reaffirms the need for the improvement of existing ties with regional and international organizations and the expansion of regional and international relationships in consultation with the Governor. The United Kingdom, for its part, reaffirms its commitment to several principles. It welcomes and shares the wish of the Government of Anguilla to cease to be reliant on capital grants and aid to fund its public investment needs, and sees the aid programme as a means of helping the Territory to achieve this aim.

71. The second part of the plan is the Anguilla Country Policy Matrix 1993/94-1995/96, which sets out the agreed policy objectives of the Government of Anguilla on a sectoral basis. It details the key policy and programme targets and the actions necessary to achieve them. It also provides the framework for monitoring progress in the implementation of these policies and

programmes as well as for reviewing the future use of aid and good government funds from the United Kingdom.

72. As defined in the Policy Matrix, Anguilla's development objectives are as follows: to consolidate the contribution of tourism to the economy with minimal environmental degradation; to promote the development of a high quality offshore finance sector as the main way of diversifying the economy; to ensure that marine resources are sustainably managed, while promoting further development of fisheries; to promote agriculture and other productive activities which can be linked to the main productive sectors of tourism and offshore finance; to strengthen education with a view to laying a sound base for long-term development; to ensure efficient provision of primary and secondary health services to all Anguillans; to ensure efficient public administration while restraining its costs; to strengthen the management of Anguilla's physical environment; and to better manage public finances.

73. The Policy Matrix also concerns the good government objectives of Anguilla through which the territorial Government confirms its commitment to the principles enshrined in the Constitution as well as to those upheld by responsible, ethical and equitable government. These principles include respect for the rule of law and fundamental principles enshrined in the Constitution, including the protection of fundamental rights and freedoms; maintenance of international standards of human rights which reflect evolving international norms; maintenance of law and order as well as social peace and stability; continuance of representative government, including periodic free and fair elections; accountability in Government; pursuit of sound economic and financial policies aimed at promoting growth, self-sufficiency and a decent standard of living for the people of Anguilla; provision of appropriate services to meet the aspirations and interests of the people of Anguilla; maintenance of a high standard of administration of justice; adoption of appropriate social policies to promote the peace, stability and cultural advancement of the community; and consultation with the private sector with a view to stimulating and promoting private sector investment and business expansion.

74. The third part of the Country Policy Plan consists of the three-year Public Sector Investment Programme of the Government, which includes projects agreed to in principle by the United Kingdom (subject to the customary submission, appraisal and approval of project proposals), lists the investments to be undertaken and provides a timetable for undertaking them. The Country Policy Plan was signed for Anguilla by the Chief Minister and the Governor of the Territory, and for the United Kingdom by its Minister for Overseas Development. While in Anguilla for the occasion, the Minister for Overseas Development took the opportunity to visit completed and current aid projects, including the Princess Alexandra Hospital, the marine shorebase, the new post office and two primary schools where rehabilitation work was due to start shortly.

IV. SOCIAL CONDITIONS

A. Labour

75. The development objectives of the Government are aimed at improving the living standards of Anguillans through the development of the Territory's productive potential and the provision of a wide range of employment opportunities (see A/AC.109/1026, para. 73).

76. CDB reports that tourism and tourism-related construction remain the major employer, although the seasonal nature of tourism in the Territory produces large variations in the demand for labour. 2/

77. According to the 1992 census, the unemployment rate in Anguilla was 6.3 per cent. This level of unemployment is consistent with the economic downturn of the two previous years. As those unemployed represent mainly unskilled or minimally skilled labour, Anguilla continues to grant work permits to a significant number of immigrant workers. Between 1987 and 1992, the number of immigrant workers increased by more than five times to over 500. 6/

B. Public health

78. The Government remained committed to providing primary health care for all Anguillans by the year 2000. The Territory is served by the 24-bed Cottage Hospital and the Princess Alexandra Hospital, a 36-bed facility financed by the United Kingdom.

79. In order to ensure more efficient primary and secondary health services, and in pursuance of the Country Policy Plan, the Government has decided, inter alia, to establish an Anguilla Health Authority; to commission a new hospital; to establish improved geriatrics services; to implement policies to recover more health sector costs from users; to create a drug rehabilitation programme; and to strengthen its AIDS programme.

C. Drugs

80. Press reports indicate that although drug use in Anguilla is currently limited to soft drugs such as marijuana, there is evidence that harder drugs, including cocaine, are being introduced into the Territory. The Chief of Police is reported to have said that evidence showed that hard drugs were being imported when the tourist season was at its height. He noted also that, because of unprotected territorial borders, drug-trafficking could pose a problem.

81. The Government has taken steps to strengthen the Police Department and to arrange for it to work in closer cooperation with the Customs Department in the war against drugs, forming joint police-customs sea patrols.

D. Disaster preparedness and prevention

82. Following a visit to the British Virgin Islands in 1992, the Governor of Anguilla, who had been impressed by the Emergency Operations Centre of that Territory, obtained £20,000 from the British Government for the establishment of the same facility in Anguilla. 9/

V. EDUCATION

83. Education is compulsory for all children between 5 and 14 years of age, and is free at the primary and secondary levels. In November 1992, there were reportedly 2,404 children of school age in the Territory.

84. During the period under review, the Government continued to invest a significant amount of its resources in providing a better educational system. Within this framework, it sought to resolve the issue of poor examination results that had plagued the Education Department in recent years (see A/AC.109/1141, paras. 66 and 67) by providing well-qualified staff. This initiative reversed the negative trend and produced better results.

85. The authorities also took steps to address the question of overcrowding in classrooms, which had compelled Anguilla to use all available community and church buildings for classrooms. With the assistance of the United Kingdom the territorial Government was able to build additional classrooms at a very low cost.

Notes

1/ The information contained in this paper has been derived from published reports and from information transmitted to the Secretary-General by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations on 7 July 1988 for the years 1986 and 1987, on 16 February 1989 for the years 1984 to 1987 and on 13 July 1993 for the years 1991 to 1993. The facts and figures relating to those years are the latest information available.

2/ The Caribbean Development Bank, Annual Economic Report, 1991, Anguilla.

3/ Reuters dispatch (Anguilla), 18 February 1994.

4/ Anguilla, National Accounts Statistics, 1992, revised, May 1993.

5/ The currency of the Territory is the East Caribbean dollar (EC$). One United States dollar (US$ 1.00) is equivalent to EC$ 2.68.

6/ The Caribbean Development Bank, Annual Report, 1992 (Barbados).

7/ Anguilla Life Magazine vol. VI, No. 2 (Summer-Fall 1993).

8/ Statistical Review of Tourism, 1992, prepared by the Statistical Unit, Ministry of Finance, Anguilla.

9/ The Island Sun (Tortola), 20 June 1992.